

Application No. 10/054,850

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

LANIER et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application No.: 10/054,850

Examiner: Edward M. Johnson

Filed: January 25, 2002

For: PROCESS AND SYSTEM TO REDUCE MERCURY EMISSION

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

To: Examiner: Edward M. Johnson
Group Art Unit: 1754
TC 1700
Fax Number Before Final - 703-872-9310

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
OCT 22 2003

When facsimile receipt is returned with this cover sheet, the USPTO acknowledges receiving the following documents:

- (1) Amendment Transmittal Letter (with two copies)
- (2) Response to Restriction Requirement
- (3) Preliminary Amendment

Respectfully submitted,



Philip D. Freedman
Reg. No. 24,163
Philip D. Freedman PC
Customer Number 25101
6000 Wescott Hills Way
Alexandria, Virginia 22315-4747
(703) 313-0171
Fax: (703) 313-9322
Email: tekesq@tekesq.com

Alexandria, Virginia

Oct 21, 2003

Application No. 10/054,850

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LANIER et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application No.: 10/054,850

Examiner: Edward M. Johnson

Filed: January 25, 2002

For: PROCESS AND SYSTEM TO REDUCE MERCURY EMISSION

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please find the following enclosed for filing:

1. Response To Restriction Requirement; and
2. Amendment

The additional claims fee has been calculated as follows:

	Paid For	No. Pending	No. Extra	Rate	Total
Independent Claims	3	3	-	\$86	-
Total Claims	26	38	12	18	216
				Filing Fee	
				Total	\$ 216

Please charge the additional claims fee in the amount of \$ 216 to Deposit Account No. 070888. Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 070849 as needed to ensure consideration of this and the enclosed documents. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
OCT 22 2003

OFFICIAL

Application No. 10/054,850

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary in order to place this application in condition for allowance, he is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip D. Freedman
Reg. No. 24,163
Philip D. Freedman PC
Customer Number 25101
6000 Wescott Hills Way
Alexandria, Virginia 22315-4747
(703) 313-0171
Fax: (703) 313-9322
Email: tekesq@tekesq.com

Alexandria, Virginia
Oct 21, 2003

Attachments:

Response to Restriction Requirement
Amendment
Two copies of this Letter

Application No. 10/054,850

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

LANIER et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application No.: 10/054,850

Examiner: Edward M. Johnson

Filed: January 25, 2002

For: PROCESS AND SYSTEM TO REDUCE MERCURY EMISSION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 30, 2003, Applicants hereby elect Group II, claim 18 with traverse.

With entry of the accompanying Preliminary Amendment, claims 18 and 26 to 38 read on the elected Group II invention.

The Group I claims are directed to a method to decrease emission of mercury. The Group II claims are directed to a method to decrease emissions of nitrogen oxide and mercury. The group III claims 20 to 25 are directed to a system to decrease emissions of nitrogen oxide and mercury while decreasing carbon in fly ash. Both the Group I process and the Group II process can be carried out in the Group III system. Hence, the subject matter of all the claims is sufficiently related that a search of any one Group encompasses a search for the subject matter of the other Group. Further, the Group I dependent claims 9 to 12 further comprising removing NO_x, of necessity require the same scope of search as the Group II claims.

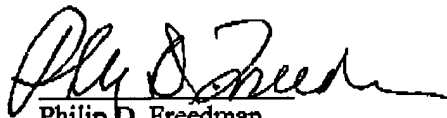
Section 803 of the MPEP states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." All of the claims of the present application could be examined without serious burden in view of

Application No. 10/054,850

their close relationship. In order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicant and duplicate examination by the Patent Office, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be reconsidered and withdrawn.

For these reasons, and in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office, it is respectfully requested that the Restriction Requirement be reconsidered and withdrawn and this Application be examined on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip D. Freedman
Reg. No. 24,163
Philip D. Freedman PC
Customer Number 25101
6000 Wescott Hills Way
Alexandria, Virginia 22315-4747
(703) 313-0171
Fax: (703) 313-9322
Email: tekesq@tekesq.com

Alexandria, Virginia

Oct 21, 2003

Serial No. 10/054,850

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LANIER et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application No.: 10/054,850

Examiner: Edward M. Johnson

Filed: January 25, 2002

For: PROCESS AND SYSTEM TO REDUCE MERCURY EMISSION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to initial examination subsequent to the election accompanying this Preliminary Amendment, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper: